

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims

1. **(currently amended):** A process for making a synthetic melt spun polyamide filament comprising the steps of:
supplying polyamide polymer with an RV of about 36 to about 38 to a solid phase polycondensation apparatus;
supplying a purge gas humidified with water vapor to the solid phase polycondensation apparatus at a flow rate in the range of about 2 to about 3 kg/hour per kg of polymer per hour;
treating the polyamide polymer in the solid phase polycondensation apparatus with the purge gas at a solid phase polycondensation system pressure of about 110 to about 120 kPascal;
conveying the treated polyamide polymer to a melt extrusion apparatus;
melting the polyamide polymer in the melt extrusion apparatus;
extruding the melted polyamide polymer through a spinneret plate; and
forming at least one continuous filament of polyamide polymer with a yarn RV of about 51 to about 54.
2. **(original):** The process of claim 1, further including quenching and cooling the filament.
3. **(original):** The process of claim 2, further including post-treating the filament and winding up the filament.
4. **(original):** The process of claim 3, further including wiping the spinneret plate on the capillary exit side, in cycles, wherein each wiping cycle is separated by about 8 to about 12 hours.
5. **(original):** The process of Claim 1 wherein the purge gas is comprised of nitrogen gas supplied at a flow rate in the range of about 2 to about 3 kg/hour per kg of polymer per hour.

6. **(withdrawn):** A delustered synthetic melt spun polyamide filament having a YARN QUALITY greater than about 32.8, wherein YARN QUALITY is defined according to,
- $$\text{YARN QUALITY} = [\text{tenacity (grams/denier)}] \times (\% \text{ elongation})^{1/2};$$
- said yarn prepared by a process comprising the steps of:
- providing a synthetic polyamide polymer to a solid phase polycondensation apparatus,
 - treating the synthetic polyamide polymer in the solid phase polycondensation apparatus at a system pressure in the range of about 110 to about 120 kPascal;
 - conveying the treated polyamide polymer to a melt extrusion apparatus;
 - melting the polyamide polymer in the melt extrusion apparatus;
 - extruding the melted polyamide polymer through a spinneret plate;
 - and
 - forming at least one continuous filament of polyamide polymer.